

KING ALBERT OF BELGIUM MOST POPULAR MONARCH

Got Much of His Democratic Spirit
During Visit to United States.

WAS REPORTER ON NEWSPAPER

Traveled Throughout Northwest and
Studied About Every Industry in
Country—Royally Entertained in
Washington and Other Cities.

BY FRANKLIN P. MERRICK.

PARIS, April 10.—From a comparatively obscure ruler, King Albert of Belgium has become in a few months the most popular monarch in the world. All who approach him are charmed by his manner. Those who surround him adore him.

He has been called "a King without a country." But this will never be. From the time his land was invaded he has never left its soil, and he has given word that no one doubts that he will die in the trenches before he will allow the Germans to force him over the border from the tiny strip of Belgium that still is his.

But bravery is common. It is not Albert's bulldog tenacity that endears him to all. It is the quiet, kindly manner in which he handles everything. It is his freedom from pomp and circumstance. It is because he is the most democratic ruler in the world—even if he is a King.

How much of this democratic spirit did the hero of the Yser acquire in his series of adventures in the United States? Undoubtedly, a great deal. He admired greatly the wars of the great West. He absorbed the do or die spirit of the American frontiersman. "Prince Albert," as he was then, went back to the court of his uncle, the sybaritic King Leopold, with far different ambitions from that of a prince despot.

It was the year of the Spanish-American War, 1898, that Albert came to America. He spent much time in New York, Washington and the East, but was most impressed with the West. J. J. Hill, the railroad magnate, took him under his protection, although Albert's rugged six-foot-three never needed much protection.

WAS REGULAR REPORTER
ON NEWSPAPERS IN WEST

Mr. Hill got him a job on a newspaper in Minneapolis, and later on one in St. Paul. He was a regular reporter, the first to ever ascend a throne.

He worked inconspicuously, and few knew that the intelligent, persistent young man who "dug" for facts was the heir apparent to the throne of Belgium and prospective ruler of the Congo.

It is said that some of the city editors in the sister cities of Minnesota did not learn until years later that their promising "cub" was a scion of royalty.

Besides reporting, Albert traveled throughout the Northwest as Mr. Hill's guest. He used the magazine's private car, and was accompanied by Mr. Hill himself or his son, Sam.

It is recalled by the Hills with amusement that as the train was approaching Anaconda, Mont., they were compelled to make a side excursion, and told the prince he would be well taken care of if he would look up Editor J. H. Dunston, of the Anaconda Standard. Mr. Dunston, who had been at his desk until 4 A. M., was awakened at 8 A. M. by a persistent ringing at his door bell. Throwing on a dressing gown, he went growling to the door, looked over his caller and immediately decided the polite, dapper young man with the good presence was a book agent.

"Well, what have you to sell?" he grumbled.

The "book agent" immediately appeared embarrassed and produced his card. Then the editor, for once in his life, was embarrassed, too, but they were soon fast friends.

While in America, Albert studied about every industry we have. On his return he wrote a book about the United States which evidenced the fact that his dream of an ideal government was just about the government this country has adopted.

While in America he had dinner in Washington with President and Mrs. McKinley, went to Newport to be entertained by Mrs. Potter Palmer, took luncheon at the Lawyers' Club in Wall Street with Frederick R. Coudert, went over to the Standard Oil works at Bayonne, N. J., visited the United States navy yards, and saw also a cavalry drill, and, as a diversion after such strenuous labors, tried to visit the scene of a murder in Brooklyn, which figured on the front pages of the morning papers.

POLICEMAN ORDERS HIM
AWAY FROM HOUSE OF CRIME

A body policeman ordered him, ordering him away from the house of crime. That he was a visiting prince made no difference—if he were a visiting corner, he might have got in, said the guardian of the law.

The old fields in Western Pennsylvania were thoroughly inspected, and the manufacturing establishments in Massachusetts investigated.

Society hastened to ascertain him wherever he went, and occasionally interfered with the engineering and industrial studies he was making, so that he finally hid his identity under an assumed name. In New Orleans he was C. A. Harris. In St. Louis he stayed for three days at a hotel as "John Banks of New York."

So Albert got a pretty thorough knowledge of America, and liked it. Also, America liked him. He is the

kind of a man who appeals to Americans. He is big, quiet, and at the same time forceful. His officers fear his anger—but he seldom is angry. He fights, rides, swims, shoots and engages in aviation, engineering and writing with equal facility.

In an interview with a newspaper correspondent recently he spoke with satisfaction of "knowing his people." He declared he had had advantages, as he put it, which few men in his station had enjoyed. By this he meant his traveling and mixing freely.

"I lived like any American in the Pacific Northwest and along the Pacific Coast in my own country, too. I have seen almost everything for myself. I know from experience what it means to drive a locomotive and to work in a coal mine. It is work to be a King, too. Few realize how hard work it is."

But Albert does things in the line of his work that few Kings do. Here is a little extract from a letter written by one of his soldiers:

"We never knew how much we loved our King. With what he has done and is doing for us we could not help loving him. One Sunday while he was on a tour of inspection with his staff of officers he saw men digging trenches who looked very tired. The King inquired how long they had been working, and, on being told, sent them away to rest while he proposed to the officers that they and his staff take the men's places. The King could then be seen directing trenches to relieve his soldiers."

"Can any one help feeling proud to serve under such a King?"

INTRODUCES NEW MEN
TO OLDER COMRADES

King Albert conceived the idea of presenting in person his recruits who had not yet received their baptism of fire to their older comrades, the Belgian soldiers who have been fighting since August.

Veterans of the Sixth and Twentieth Regiments formed a square, with bayonets fixed after a speech by the colonel, the King delivered this address to the older men, by way of introducing their new comrades:

"Old soldiers of the Sixth and Twentieth Regiments of the line, I desire you to give a kindly welcome to the new recruits, who are going to be your comrades in battle. Be helpful and kindly to them amid the difficulties of war. Be genuine brothers in arms, so as to oppose an unbreakable barrier to the invader, for even at the price of death we must fight one, with the aid of our allies, until our territory has been liberated."

King Albert has been under fire personally probably more times than any other high commander in the war. He even made an aerial reconnaissance of the German lines. He occupied the observer's seat in a Belgian military biplane, and spent about one hour in the air. Several times the aeroplanes were under fire, but he returned safely to headquarters.

Headquarters. Few men are as powerful physically as the King. On his motor cars all the brake levers are specially strengthened, because of the tension he brings to bear when driving. He can lift Crown Prince Leopold, fourteen years old, and the Princess Marie Jose, four years younger, one by each hand and hold them out at arm's length.

The King has a modest opinion of his own ability, however. Emile Vanderhelde, the Belgian Minister of State, relates that when the French arrived to support the Belgians, who had been holding the Germans in check at the Yser for a week all alone, a difference of opinion arose between the French and Belgian generals as to the best location of a certain line of defense, and the person very close to King Albert appealed to him, as it was his country, and his wishes would, of course, be followed. The King answered: "If I did not happen to be the King, I should not be a major in the Belgian army, and I do not wish to interfere with the plans of the generals."

The King is bringing up his two sons in his most democratic ways. The Queen, who was a Russian princess, is a notable musician and a talented woman in many other respects. When Antwerp fell and the three children were shipped off to Lord Curzon's country place in England, she refused to seek refuge abroad. She returned to her husband in the trenches, and, while actually under fire from the German howitzers, she distributed gifts to her country's soldiers on Christmas Day.

Vanderhelde, a Socialist, Socialism grew rapidly in Belgium under King Leopold, who died in 1909. But his nephew has won the hearts of the workingmen, as of every other class of Belgians.

Grandma used sage tea to darken hair.

She mixed Sulphur with it to Restore Color, Gloss, Thickness.

Common garden sage brewed into a heavy tea with sulphur and alcohol added, will turn gray, streaked and faded hair beautifully dark and luxuriant, remove every bit of dandruff, stop scalp itching and falling hair. Just a few applications will prove a revelation if your hair is fading, gray or dry, crackly and thin. Mixing the Sage Tea and Sulphur recipe at home, though, is troublesome. An easier way is to get the ready-to-use tonic, costing about 50 cents a large bottle at drug stores, known as "Weeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound." Thus avoiding a lot of muss.

While wispy, gray, faded hair is not sinful, we all desire to retain our youthful appearance and attractiveness. By darkening your hair with Weeth's Sage and Sulphur, no one can tell, because it does it so naturally, so evenly. You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. By morning all gray hairs have disappeared, and, after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully dark, glossy, soft and luxuriant. Advertisement.

White India Linon
40 Inches Wide
Regular 12½c Quality 8c

White India Linon, 40 inches wide, an extra fine, sheer and crisp quality; made of the finest combed yarns. Special 8c

Plain White Voile, 36 inches wide, with a very fine chiffon finish; worth 18c, 12½c

Nainsook, yard wide, an extra fine quality, soft, mercerized finish; in 12-yd. \$1.00

White Dotted Swiss, an extra good quality, in different sizes dotes, suitable for waists or dresses; worth 15c, 10c

White Seed Voile, one of this season's most popular fabrics; 49 inches wide, an extra fine voile, with a sprinkle of neat dash effects; worth 30c, 19c

Muslin Cambric, yard wide, an extra fine quality, soft finish for underwear; worth 15c, at yard, 10c

White Linene, a linen finish suiting much in vogue for middie blouses and boys' suits; worth 12½c, at 9c

Unbleached Sheeting, yard wide; fine quality Sea Island cotton; suitable for making sheets; worth 8c, 5½c

Beach American Prints, fast colors, in a big assortment of styles and patterns; 4½c

Percales, yard wide, standard quality, in red, blue and black ground with figures and stripes; also shepherd checks; worth 10c, 6½c

Inside Belting, 1½ and 2½-inch cotton grain belting, black or white, special, a yard, 3c

Manufacturer's Samples of Handkerchiefs

Including all linen embroidered, cotton embroidered, plain all linen, hemstitched; all up to 25c values; Monday, while they last, at 10c each

Weisberger's Street Floor.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SALE, INVOLVING EVERY DEPARTMENT ON OUR STREET FLOOR



Fabulous Low Prices on Wanted and Needed Merchandise
That Should Send Every Economical Person in
Richmond Hurrying to This Store

Months of time and unlimited energy have been spent in preparation for this event, and now we can confidently assert that the values listed below cannot be equalled by any other Richmond store. Our buyers went to every big market in this country in their search for values that would be good enough for this sale. They took advantage of every market condition—they bargained and haggled with manufacturers to obtain the price they wanted—result, the greatest list of bargains it has ever been our good fortune to see gathered under one roof.

Remember, Every Price Quoted Below Is Genuine, and Bears The Weisberger
Guarantee of Absolute Satisfaction or Your Money Back

Sale of Bleached Sheets at Seamless, 81x90 Inches Regular 65c Value 50c

Fifty dozen 81x90 Seamless Bleached Sheets, full double bed size, made of heavy linen finish sheeting, finished with 3-inch hem. Strictly first quality. At this price it will pay you to buy enough to last all season.

Bleached Seamless Sheets, 81x90 inches, for double beds, extra fine quality, bleached snow white; soft finish and no dressing; ready to use; worth 85c, 69c

Bleached Sheets, 72x90 inches, with seam, for three-quarter or double beds; worth 50c, at 29c

Crochet Bedspreads, extra large size good heavy Crochet Spreads, fine quality; no dressing; beautiful patterns; worth \$2.00, at 98c

Bleached Pillow Cases, 42x36 inches, good quality; worth 12½c, at 8c

Bleached Pillow Cases, 45x36 inches, good quality, linen finish; worth 15c, at 11c

Crochet Bed Spreads, large size for double beds, extra heavy quality Marseilles patterns; worth \$1.50, at 95c

Crochet Bedspreads, scalloped edges, with cut-out corners, in showy Marseilles patterns; extra fine quality; worth \$3.00, at 1.95

Satin Marseilles Bedspreads, large size for double beds, scalloped edges and cut-out corners, assorted patterns; worth \$3.50, at 2.25

Huck Towels, good size, in plain white and red borders, slightly imperfect, but nothing which will harm the wearing quality of them; worth 12½c, at 5c

Tremendous Silk and Wash Goods Bargains

The buyer for this department says that these are the most wonderful values he has ever seen in his 19 years' experience—a careful scrutiny of the items below and an inspection of the goods themselves will convince you that he is right.

85c 36-inch Black All-Silk Satin Messaline, a good, heavy quality and very lustrous; just received, 10 new pieces, all good blacks, and will offer 55c them Monday at 55c

36-inch \$1.00 All-Silk Satin Messalines, every shade, also black and white, the finest grade, made in colors; retails everywhere at \$1.00; on sale Monday 79c

\$1.75 40-inch Box Loom Crepe de Chine, extra heavy, crepe finish, in a beautiful collection, in a splendid range of colors; at the special low price of 1.25

36-inch Striped Tub Silks, all silk, in a full assortment of colors for making men's shirts, also women's waists; extra quality; worth 85c yard; special 69c

27-inch Japanese Silk, in light and dark colors, all warranted fast colors, good for making underwear, waists, etc.; 45c quality; Monday 39c

\$2.50 Crepe Meteors, 40 inches wide, in all the much wanted colors, also black and white; this is the best quality, and all new rich shades; quality not excelled; on sale Monday at 1.49

\$1.50 40-inch Silk and Wool Poplins, in every new shade for spring; a beautiful soft, clinging fabric that will not crush and is in such demand; we have a complete line of all colors, including black; will offer them special at 95c

27-inch Jap Kimono Silks, in dark and light grounds, with pretty floral and Japanese designs; 60c quality; Monday 45c

27-inch De Lan Batiste, a rich, soft, silky cotton fabric, in staple shades; specially good for linings; 15c value; Monday 12½c

30-inch Jouey Half Silk Cotton Fabric, in rich, pretty colored designs; all neat, pretty patterns; these goods were bought to sell at 65c; extra special for 39c Monday only 39c

EXTRA SPECIALS

Women's Embroidered Laundered Collars, sizes 12 to 14; big line of 5c patterns; actual 15c value; each. Weisberger's Street Floor.

Women's Pure Silk Crepe Windsor Ties, solid colors, coral, white, black, navy, Belgium, Hunter green, purple, light blue, pink; actual 25c values; Monday only 19c Weisberger's Street Floor.

Women's Patent Colonial, panel of sand colored cloth; small ornament; plain toe, short vamp, Cuban heels; regular \$1.00 seller; Monday \$2.95 only Weisberger's Street Floor.

Women's Patent or Gunmetal Colonial, a regular \$2.50 grade; \$1.69 for Monday only Weisberger's Street Floor.

Women's Patent Colt Military Ox-fords, with panel of sand colored cloth, plain toe, Cuban heels; regular \$4.00 value; Monday only \$2.95 Weisberger's Street Floor.

BIG REDUCTIONS IN Laces and Embroideries

Embroideries, 3 to 5 inches wide, in Swiss and cambric; values up to 8c a yard 4c

Plat. Val. and Shadow Laces, also All Linen Laces; up to 8c a yard; per yard 3½c

Embroidered Flouncings, 45 inches wide, pretty lot of patterns; values up to 75c a yard; very special 39c

Shadow Lace Flouncings, 18 inches wide, ten new, pretty patterns; 39c values; Monday 19c only

Shadow Allovers, 36 inches wide, white and cream, six pretty new designs; up to 59c values; Monday only, a yard 39c

Pure Silk Chiffon, 42 inches wide, black, Belgium blue, green, taupe, purple, old rose, cardinal; \$1 value; Monday, a yard 89c

Corset Coverings and 18-inch Flouncing Swiss and Cambric; neat, pretty designs; up to 35c value; per yard 19c



Val. and Linen Lace Insertions only; up to 5c value; per yard 1c

Oriental Net Tops, beautiful lot of new, pretty designs; up to 15c a yard; special Monday only, per yard 10c

Val. Edges and Insertions, excellent qualities and patterns; up to 60c a dozen; very special Monday, a dozen 39c

MOTHER! GIVE CROSS, SICK CHILD ONLY "CALIFORNIA SYRUP OF FIGS"

If peevish, feverish, tongue coated, give "fruit laxative" at once.

No matter what ails your child a laxative should be the first treatment given.

Look at the tongue, mother! If coated, it is a sure sign your "little one's" stomach, liver and bowels need a gentle, thorough cleansing at once. When cross, peevish, listless, pale, don't sleep, eat each sour, system full of cold, throat sore, or if feverish, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in just a few hours all the

clogged-up, constipated waste, sour bile and undigested food will gently move out of the bowels and you have a well, playful child again.

Sick children need to be coaxed to take this harmless fruit laxative. Millions of mothers keep it handy because they know safe action on the stomach, liver and bowels is prompt and sure. They also know a little given to-day saves a sick child to-morrow.

Take your drugist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which contains directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on the bottle. Beware of counterfeits sold here. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company," Red-Box any other kind with contempt. Advertisement.